

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cobb et al. (U.S. Patent 6,430,737).

Claims 5 and 6 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

Claims 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by LaCour et al. (Publication No. 2002/0157068). This rejection is traversed as follows.

Claim 7, which has been amended to incorporate the language of canceled Claim 5, recites "a database repeating element for describing a configurable logic block of a field programmable gate array (FPGA) or an adjoining group of configurable logic blocks of an FPGA, and a database repeating element for describing a block of RAM or group of adjoining blocks of RAM in the FPGA".

Claim 8, which has been amended to depend from Claim 7, recites "a database repeating element for describing an input/output block of the FPGA".

The Examiner indicates that paragraph [0007] teaches "a mask layer database with FPGA". However, paragraph [0007] of LaCour et al. provides no reference to an FPGA. In fact, Applicant is unable to locate any portion of LaCour et al. that refers to an FPGA.

In addition, LaCour et al. does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), because the filing date of the present application (2/25/2002) pre-dates the publication date of LaCour et al. (10/24/2002).

For these reasons, Claims 7 and 8 are allowable over LaCour et al.

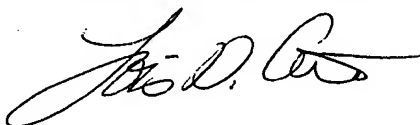
Claim 9 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has indicated that this claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended Claim 9 in accordance with the

Examiner's suggestions, thereby placing this claim in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-4 and 7-11 are pending in the present Application. Claims 1-4 and 9-11 are allowable. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 7-8 is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is invited to call the undersigned at 720-652-3733.

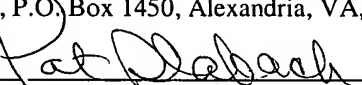
Respectfully submitted,



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